French, because we are quite sure that our benevolent and liberal Hebrew citizens will see to it that the suffering people of their own faith in France are not forgotten. It is right and proper, too, that our Jewish citizens should be recognized as brethren by our Christian citizens, and especially in all good works of charity.

We have another idea upon this matter. If Mr. Marshall's committee were to apply to the President for a proclamation upon the subject, requesting the different religious bodies of the United States to devote a day for the collections indicated, and suggesting the day named—Saturday for the Hebrew and Sunday for the Christian churches—we think that General Grant would issue such proclamation, and that in thus giving the movement a national character he would contribute greatly to its success. In the name of Washington and Lafayette, why not?

Our Religious Press Table.

The Lord helps those who help themselves. The religious press seem to have helped themselves profusely the past week from the secular press. They give a good deal of news in their editorial columns. The *Independent*, for example, regards the "Joint High Commission" as a mission of civilization, but suggests that we should not flatter ourselves too much. It thinks that the Mission "is not all civilization and Christian charity. Even hopeful Dr. Cumming must know that one swallow does not make summer, and one Joint High Commission does not make a millennium, even with a dethroned Pope thrown in." The same paper, which, by the way, is the organ of the Congregationalists, don't like the idea that the United States should pay any portion of the confederate national debt, and remarks that it is "paying the assassins for the gunpowder expended in the attempt to kill you" (meaning the United States). The *Independent* also indulges in an article in regard to the "House of Lords and the House of Israel," in which connection we may as well throw in the fact that the *Jewish Messenger*, of this city, is quite complimentary to the HERALD for its previous allusions to the old faith, of which it is the accepted organ. It acknowledges the HERALD as the "new mediator," and upon that text exhorts "the synagogues to rejoice and the temples to shout hallelujah." We hope our friends in the Hebrew faith will rejoice accordingly; but we beseech them not to make too much racket, else they might disturb the harmony in the Plymouth church, from which the HERALD has already received congratulations through the columns of the *Christian Union* in an article written by Henry Ward Beecher. Next we find upon our table a lively Catholic paper, published in this city, called *St. Peter*. Judging from the spice infused into its editorials, we might designate the sheet by the more appropriate name of Salt Peter. It proclaims that Father Keegan, of Brooklyn, is sound on the Pope, and announces that "there is a similarity between the Mohammedan and the King of Italy; between the Holy Land and the patrimony of St. Peter; between Jerusalem and the City of the Pontiffs." Precisely. The same similarity that exists between St. Peter and Jerusalem is exhibited in the operations at Albany in regard to legislation for the city of New York. Between St. Peter and Jerusalem the taxpayers of the metropolis are likely to be pretty well fleeced. Our venerable friend, the *Observer*, indulges in secular matters, and discusses the "Alabama difficulties" with as much gusto as a morning daily paper. A portion of its article is worth quoting, as showing the tendencies of our Presbyterian organs on the important international political topics now engaging public attention. It is as follows:—

That America and England, the two great Protestant countries, may stand before the world closely united in heart, seeking to promote each other's interests, having the same deep interest in promoting the highest welfare of our race the world over, is a matter the importance of which is not to be estimated in dollars and cents.

The *Christian Union* (Henry Ward Beecher's paper) has an elaborate article on the "Fairness of Interpretation." It must be a very good article, to judge by its length. The writer starts out with the "old epigram," as he terms it, to wit:—"This is the book where every one seeks what he wishes to believe, and finds it." For a man to feel around for what he does not want to find this must be a good thing, and we commend the perusal of the article in question to those of our readers who have the leisure to do so. Brother Beecher, why don't you give us something short, spicy, piquant in this your very elegantly printed paper?

The New York *Methodist* goes every week to hundreds of young men's Christian associations; therefore its editorial articles should be regarded with more than ordinary attention. This week it has a well written leader on the "Modification of the Episcopacy." The subject matter under consideration is that of rotation in bishoprics, and the *Methodist* branches from its purely legitimate sphere to say that

The country is at this moment groaning under the accumulation of evils brought upon it by the application of a system of rotation to offices purely administrative. Its machinery of government is deranged; the sense of responsibility among official persons is destroyed; the morals of the people are corrupted, and the State is reduced to a condition of helplessness for which no remedy has yet been successfully devised. The experience of the State here is not without important lessons for the Church.

The *Jewish Times* gives a clever article under the title of "The Men in Spectacles," and argues from a text taken from a French writer in the *Fortnightly Review* that the men in spectacles conquered France, or as our Jewish contemporary says:—"The superior education of the German legions, their enhanced intelligence, their conscious enthusiasm for the object they were battling for, as contrasted with the ignorance, illiteracy and bigotry of their opponents." That is very good for spectacles, but perhaps field glasses had something to do with the marvellous successes of the Prussians.

The *Hebrew Leader* is Hebrewic, but takes occasion to notice that Emanuel B. Hart has been presented with a complimentary testimonial in honor of his services at the Hebrew Charity Fair.

The *Freeman's Journal* is, as usual, full of the Pope.

Through our religious exchanges we learn, from the *National Baptist*, of Philadelphia, that the day of prayer for colleges—why not include West Point Academy?—will be generally observed in Baptist institutions of learning on the 23d instant. We also find in the same well established journal an inside view of some of the religious denominations in Scotland. The *Christian Standard*, of Cincinnati, talks about the "Life of Faith" and the "Social Evil" as if both went together. Why not separate them? The Boston *Pilot*, the oldest and most steadfast Catholic organ in New England, urges a new work of charity, in which service its philanthropic editor is always engaged, in the shape of a collection for the "Home," an institution founded by the editor of the *Pilot*. The *Apostolic Times*, of Lexington, Ky., gives its views upon the subject of union between Baptists and Reformers, and favors affiliation.

Taking a review of our religious exchanges altogether, we are led to the conclusion that a reviving spirit of grace is observable in many parts of the country, and that the happiest moral results may be anticipated.

THE CARNIVAL AT WASHINGTON on Monday and Tuesday next will be such a solemn affair that the Treasury Department will be closed in honor of the melancholy festivities, and it will also be closed on Ash Wednesday in honor of Washington's Birthday. We wonder what sort of a *Mardi gras* they will have in unfortunate Paris this time, and what will be the carnival in Rome. The fat ox in Paris, arrayed in flowers, we fear, will not be forthcoming; and Pio Nono, in his present situation in Rome, is not in the humor for Punchinello, or a shower of confectionery.

SEWARD AND THE JAPANESE MISSION.—We think we can trace the graceful trail of our own Seward in the establishment of a Japanese Embassy in this country just as we traced it in the Burlingame Chinese Embassy. That able statesman has been cultivating the Orient very industriously for many years, and we are beginning to reap his harvest. He was very recently admitted to the sacred presence of the veiled Mikado himself, and it would not greatly surprise us if he were offered some immense dignity in the service of that wise young man.

Personal Intelligence.

General T. G. Pitcher, of West Point Academy, has left the Brevoort House for home.

Ex-Governor Robert C. Winthrop, from Massachusetts, is among the arrivals at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

General Stannard, of the United States Army, has taken quarters at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Colonel Kintzing, of the United States Marine Corps, is sojourning at the St. Denis Hotel.

Senator S. A. Merritt, of Idaho, has arrived at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Mr. S. H. Hammond, Assistant Attorney Genera of this State, is staying at the Hoffman House.

Mr. Oakes Ames, member of Congress from Massachusetts, arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday, and left the same day for Washington.

Ex-Senator John B. Alley, from Massachusetts, has arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Mr. J. B. Hulbert, of Quebec, is staying at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Mr. John W. Young, "a chip of the Brigham block," has arrived from Mormonland, and is now lording it at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Mr. J. C. Kelsey, State Treasurer of New Jersey, is sojourning at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

r. J. V. Pruyn has left the Brevoort House for Albany.

General C. B. Norton, of the United States Army, is at the Grand Central Hotel.

Mr. Smith M. Weed, member of Assembly, has put up at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

Judge J. G. Sutherland, from Michigan, is at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Mr. R. W. Daniels, Collector of Buffalo, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

THE TENNESSEE.

Nothing Yet Heard in Washington of the Tennessee.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1871.

No news has yet been received at the Executive Mansion or at the Navy Department respecting the steamer Tennessee.

Instructions of the Navy Department to Captain Temple, of the Tennessee.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1871.

In response to the resolution offered by Mr. Sumner and adopted by the Senate on the 15th inst., the Secretary of the Navy to-day transmitted to that body a copy of the instructions to the commander of the Tennessee, dated January 13, 1871, and a list of the naval vessels, with their armaments, which have been from time to time since the commencement of the recent negotiations with the republic of Dominica in the waters of the island of St. Domingo. After quoting the joint resolution authorizing the appointment of St. Domingo Commissioners and stating that the President had appointed the same and given orders for their conveyance in a naval vessel, the instructions read as follows:—

The department expects you to be ready to proceed to sea, with the Tennessee under your command, on Monday next, the 16th inst., without fail. Having meanwhile, or on that day, received on board the Commissioners and their suite, you will carry them with all practicable despatch to Samana Bay or such other port in St. Domingo as they may desire to visit. You will put the ship, her accommodations and her movements at the disposal of the Commissioners, taking her to such ports, within or without St. Domingo, as they may desire to visit, observing, however, the necessary regard to her safety which a provident commander must always exercise. You will remain with the Commissioners, at their disposal, as aforesaid, until they desire you to return to this country, when you will make all despatch to New York or such other port in the United States as they may desire to be landed at and report your arrival by telegraph and otherwise, as usual, to the department. The names of the Commissioners and of their suite will be furnished you as soon as practicable. The whole party will number not more than sixteen persons, of whom the Commissioners and their secretary and such others as they designate will be accommodated in the cabin to the extent of its capacity, and the others in the ward room or other officers' mess. In this matter, as well as in others affecting the comfort or convenience of the Commissioners, you will please consult these gentlemen, and conform as far as possible to their wishes.

All the expenses of the Commissioners and their attendants will be paid by the paymaster of the ship on your order and charged to the appropriation for contingent expenses of the navy. The expenses of other persons, not the Commissioners, or belonging to their suite, must be arranged by themselves.

The department wishes you an agreeable cruise, and confides to your discretion to accomplish its object satisfactorily. Very respectfully,

GEORGE M. ROBESON, Secretary of the Navy.

Captain WILLIAM G. TEMPLE, commanding United States steamship Tennessee, Navy Yard, New York.

The following is the list of vessels above referred to:—

The Severn, Congress, Nantasket, Swatara, Yantic, Dictator, Sangus, Terror, Albany, Nipsic, Seminole and Tennessee now compose the North Atlantic or West India squadron. Of the above named vessels, as far as known to the Department, there are now in the waters of the island of St. Domingo only the Congress, the Nantasket, the Yantic and the Tennessee, carrying respectively sixteen, seven, three, and twenty-three guns.

The Steamer Reported Off Hayti Not the Tennessee.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1871.

The government here is now satisfied that the vessel reported to have been seen off the coast of Hayti was not the Tennessee. The President is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the steamer Tybee, which he thinks will bring some intelligence of the Tennessee.

VIEWS OF THE PAST.

FEBRUARY 19.

1860—Steamship Hungarian wrecked, with loss of all on board, on Cape Sable.

1857—An explosion and subsequent fire in a colliery at Barnsby, England, caused the loss of 184 lives.

1855—Bread riot in Liverpool, England.

197—Battle of Lyons, in which the throne of Rome was contended for, occurred. Clodius Albinus was defeated and slain and Sectimus Severus became Emperor.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT

Election of M. Thiers to the Presidency.

England, Austria and Italy Recognize the New Government.

The Ministry to Appear in the Assembly To-Day.

Sketch of the Life and Services of M. Thiers.

TELEGRAMS TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BORDEAUX, Feb. 18, 1871.

I am enabled to report to the NEW YORK HERALD that on yesterday M. Thiers was elected President of the Provisional Government. Immediately after the vote in the Assembly the English, Austrian and Italian Ambassadors officially visited M. Thiers and recognized the French government.

THE MINISTRY TO APPEAR TO-DAY.

In the National Assembly to-day, the President, M. Grevy, read a letter from M. Thiers, announcing his appearance with the new Ministers in the Assembly on Sunday.

Announcement of M. Thiers' Election to the State Department at Washington.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1871.

Secretary Fish received this afternoon the following important despatch by cable:—

M. Thiers has this moment been chosen by the National Assembly "Chef du Pouvoir Executif de la Republique Française," with power to choose his Council, over which he will preside. M. Jules Favre will continue as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

READ, Consul General.

Recognition of the Provisional Government by Great Britain.

LONDON, Feb. 18, 1871.

Lord Lyons telegraphs to the Foreign Department that the French Assembly having voted almost unanimously the appointment of M. Thiers as Chief Executive pending the decision of France upon definitive institutions, he has announced verbally to M. Thiers the recognition of the government by England.

German Opposition to the Orleanists—The Election of an Orleans Prince Means Renewed Anarchy in France.

BERLIN, Feb. 18, 1871.

The *North German Gazette* of to-day says that the election of an Orleanist to the Presidency of the republic would imply a speedy renewal of anarchy in France and prevent a reconciliation with Germany, the Orleanists being the sworn enemies of Germany.

SKETCH OF LOUIS ADOLPHE THIERS.

This distinguished Frenchman, whose election to the position of President of the French provisional government is announced above, was born at Marseilles, on the 16th of April, 1797. His father was a poor locksmith of that city, but a man possessed of some friends. At the proper age the youthful Adolphe obtained admission to the public school, where he made solid and brilliant progress in the several branches, but more particularly in geometry, it being intended for him to enter the army. His career at school, however, several times came near terminating abruptly on account of his turbulent nature.

EMBARKMENT IN LITERATURE.

By advice of his friends he renounced the idea of embracing the military profession, and accordingly, when in the eighteenth year of his age, went to AIX, where he studied law, and where he formed a lasting friendship for M. Mignet, with whom, in subsequent years, he was to become a fellow worker. In 1820 he was admitted to the bar, but met with poor success. Perceiving that he was unfitted for the law he resolved to apply himself exclusively to the study of history and philosophy. In his efforts to obtain a footing in literary society he was encouraged by M. d'Arlaton de Lauris, a magistrate and a liberal member of the Aix Academy. By the advice of this gentleman M. Thiers in 1820 competed for the prize proposed by the Academy, choosing for his subject "L'Eloge de Vanvenarques." His speech was acknowledged to be the best; but the liberal sentiments so alarmed the majority of the judges, who were royalists, that they made the prize stand over for the following year.

A CLEVER REVENGE.

Smarting under the injustice done in not only depriving him of the prize he had fairly won, but also in putting him down as a Jacobin, M. Thiers determined to be avenged. The next year he returned his manuscript without alteration, and at the same time sent to the Academy another, dated at and mailed from Paris, which contained identically the same sentiments as those expressed in the first one, but differently worded. The new speech took the prize, and when the ruse of M. Thiers became known the whole city enjoyed a laugh at the expense of the Academy.

ENTRANCE INTO JOURNALISM.

About September, 1821, M. Thiers, with his friend and companion, M. Mignet, went to Paris to seek his fortune. Without influential friends and as poor as church mice, the two young men worked night and day in a fourth door garret for the ordinary necessaries of life. It was uphill work with them. Thiers, although only twenty-four years of age, could write brilliant essays, but he could not find a purchaser for them. At length Thiers struck the tide. Bolder than Mignet, he went to the house of Manuel, stated his position and his desires and wound up by asking for assistance. The great liberal orator recommended him to Lafitte, the banker, who in turn recommended him to Etienne, and this latter got him on the staff of the *Constitutionnel*, then the leading journal.

WINNING REPUTATION.

The young man was now on the road to fortune and fame. Several extracts from his "Eloge de Vanvenarques" were published in the *Constitutionnel*. As a journalist he was remarkable for the aptitude he displayed in writing on all subjects and for the originality of his ideas. Whether in defence or in attack his pen was ever ready, quick and certain. As a consequence, in France, where the "fourth estate" is all powerful, he soon became prominent and to be regarded as an authority among his friends and fellow writers. The articles he published in 1822 upon the book of Montlosier and "De la Monarchie Française" caused a complete revolution among statesmen and men of letters.

VERSATILITY OF HIS GENIUS.

M. Thiers was undoubtedly the most versatile journalist of his day. His style was lively and brilliant, and admirably suited for polemical controversy. With the boldness of true genius he ventured to write upon all subjects, no matter how superficial his knowledge was of them. Politics, literature, art, philosophy, religion, history, all came alike ready to his hand. And, singularly enough, when we bear in mind his comparatively meagre education, he made no mistakes. He wrote for his journal an account of the saloons of art. His articles united in them a clear perception of the subject, the history of the revolutions in painting and some general considerations upon the taste for and criticisms on art. These papers subsequently appeared in a volume entitled "Salon de Paris" (1822). About the same time M. Thiers published a notice of the life of Mrs. Bellany, the celebrated actress of Covent Garden, London, which was subsequently placed at the head of the biography of that lady in the memoirs of dramatic art. Toward the end of autumn in 1822 M. Thiers took a tour in Italy and in the Pyrenees, publishing his observations in the *Constitutionnel* on his return. They formed a lively and picturesque production, and part of them were afterwards published under the title of "Les Pyrénées on le Midi de la France, pendant les mois de Novembre et Decembre, 1822," and the work went through three editions.

THE HISTORY OF THE REVOLUTION.

By this time the *Constitutionnel* had already begun to prove too small a field for his genius. In 1823, when the war with Spain was going on, and on the occasion of the battle between Villèle and Chateaubriand, he took part with Jouffroy, Dubois, De Remusat and Mignet in editing the "Tablettes Historiques," a literary and political compilation. He next went to work upon his famous "History of the French Revolution," which he had been induced to undertake the writing of. The conception of this work was due to Felix Bodin, one of his brother editors on the *Constitutionnel*. But scarcely had the task been commenced when Bodin found that it demanded a higher intellect than his and he retired from it, leaving M. Thiers to complete it by himself. The first two volumes appeared with the name of MM. Thiers and Bodin, but the third had the name of Thiers alone upon it. The first two volumes contained the history of the Constituent Legislature and appeared in the autumn of 1823. They were remarkable for their clearness of style and dramatic interest.

HOW IT WAS COMPOSED.

In spite of their merits, however, the inexperience of the author was evident in every chapter. M. Thiers himself perceived this, and accordingly applied himself with vigor to special studies designed to overcome his deficiencies. From Baron Louis he learned the science of finance; Baron Jominî and General Foy taught him the art of war, and at Vincennes some friends of his, who were familiar with artillery, initiated him in the art of siege defences. He neglected nothing necessary to make his work complete and accurate. He consulted every authority that could aid him—geographical and strategical charts, time tables, memoirs, published or in manuscript, legal processes, official reports, &c., were alike examined for information. As a consequence, the third and succeeding volumes, which he wrote alone, were accurate and finished. This great work, begun in 1823, was not finished till 1832. It made ten volumes altogether, and from the time of its publication to the present day there have been probably over half a million of copies sold in France. We shall not here criticise the history. As one critic justly said, it is marked by the best qualities and the worst defects. The leniency with which he treats Mirabeau, Robespierre and the other atrocious characters of the revolution has been severely condemned as little in accord with the dignity of history. But, on the whole, the work is a great one, and will remain for many years a monument of the literary abilities of the author.

THIERS' AGENCY IN OVERTHROWING THE BOURBONS.

The success which attended his history of the revolution induced M. Thiers to entertain the idea of writing a general history, and to this end he made preparations for a series of tours. He was ready, in fact, for a voyage of circumnavigation with Captain Laplace, and was to embark on August 6, 1829, when the Polignac Ministry entered into power. M. Thiers at once abandoned his plans and determined to remain in Paris and fight them. The *Constitutionnel*, though an opposition paper, was not strong enough for him, and, in company with MM. Mignet and Arnand Carrel, he started the *National*. At this time the government was daily making greater encroachments upon the public liberties. The royalist party had gone so far as to declare openly for a *coup d'état*. According to agreement Thiers, Mignet and Carrel were to be responsible editors of the *National*, each for a year at a time. M. Thiers took charge of the paper the first year. As a writer says, "If the Polignac Ministry was formed to upset the charter, the *National* was founded to upset the Bourbons." M. Thiers waged a relentless war upon Charles X. and his Ministry. It was the *National* that stung the Bourbon government into the famous *ordonnances* issued in the "Three Days'" revolution of 1830. The paper was only seven months old when the event occurred. On the morning of the 26th of July the *ordonnances* against the press appeared. During the day several leaders of the opposition press and members of the Chamber of Deputies met at the office of the *National*.

"Well," said Thiers to them, "what's to be done now as to the opposition in the journals—in our articles? Come! We must perform an act."

"And what mean you by an act?"

"A signal of disobedience to a law which is no law. A protest."

"Well; do it then."

A committee was named on the spur of the moment, says a writer, composed of Thiers, Chatelain and Cauchois-Lanaire. Thiers drew up the protest; he inserted the leading idea—"The writers of journals, called upon the first to obey, ought to give the first example of resistance." This was the signal of revolution. Some present said:—"Good! We shall insert the protest as a leading article in our journals."

"Not only that," said Thiers; "we must put our names under it and our heads under it."

After considerable discussion the protest was adopted and published, and on the very next day the people of Paris endorsed it in the streets. It will thus be seen that M. Thiers it was who performed the initial act which led to the expulsion of the elder branch of the Bourbons. We blush to add, however, what the truth of history demands, that after signing the protest M. Thiers started for Montmorency and did not return to Paris until the 29th, after the decisive battle had been fought at the barricades and Charles X. expelled from the throne.

APPEARANCE IN THE ORLEANIST GOVERNMENT.

As regards the form of government for France the *National* did not hold to either the monarchy or the republic. M. Thiers did, however, publish an article in condemnation of the candidature of the Duke of Orleans. But subsequently he went over to the Orleans dynasty and may be regarded as one of the founders of the new monarchy. Louis Philippe had scarcely been installed when M. Thiers was named Councilor of State and Secretary General to the Minister of Finance, who was then Baron Louis. Four months later Louis resigned and was succeeded by the banker Lafitte. Thiers, it is said, also wished to resign, but he had become too prominent and influential a man for the government to lose his support and services. And so the king united with Lafitte in requesting him to retain his office, which he did. He was, in fact, promoted to the position of Under Secretary of State to the Department of Finance.

M. THIERS AS A RADICAL.

M. Thiers had already been elected to the Chamber of Deputies by the electors of the College of AIX, where he had studied, and in 1831 was re-elected. He was not a favorite in the Assembly, although all persons were fascinated by the brilliancy of his oratory. He alarmed the conservatives by his style of dressing *à la* Danton and by his speeches in favor of demoralizing Europe, saving Poland, delivering Belgium and passing the Rhine. But after awhile he became more cautious and more polite. He was the spirit and soul of the Lafitte Ministry, and upon its fall retired with his chief and went into the country.

DESERTION OF THE DEMOCRATS.

On his return to Paris M. Thiers figured in the ranks of the opposition, under the leadership of his old friend and patron, Lafitte. Suddenly, to the astonishment of all persons, on the 5th of April, 1831, he turned upon his friends and supported the Casimir-Perier administration. As might be imagined, he was loudly denounced as a renegade for this act of desertion. But Thiers took the abuse coolly. He who had been so intensely democratic now became rigidly conservative. A few months before he had wanted to pass the Rhine and to deliver Belgium; he now opposed bitterly the proposed union between France and Belgium, fearful that it would lead to a general European war, and he desired peace at all hazards. From advocating equality and democracy he became the defender of conservatism, the peerage and the old institutions of France. This sudden change in his political opinions was something remarkably strange, and impaired his popularity. But, as we have remarked already, Thiers took all the abuse showered down upon him with great equanimity. He knew what he was about.

CAREER AS MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.

After the death of Casimir-Perier, in 1832, Marshal Soult assumed the direction of affairs and M. Thiers was appointed Minister of the Interior, he having been designated for that office by a majority of the Chamber. At this time the situation was most alarming. La Vendee was in flames, Belgium menaced, and there was a general disintegration of parties. In this emergency the new Minister acted with great energy. By means of gold he succeeded in discovering the whereabouts of the Duchess de Berri and having her arrested, and as she was the soul of the rebellion in La Vendée, that section of the country was soon pacified. He also employed the most vigorous measures against the legitimists and republicans throughout France. A French army was sent against Antwerp, the citadel was taken and the independence of Belgium secured. In the Chambers M. Thiers obtained a credit for 100,000,000f. for the completion of public works. The statue of Napoleon I. was replaced on the place Vendome; public works were everywhere proceeded with and industry began to revive. In a word M. Thiers made a very successful Minister of the Interior.

THE LYONS INSURRECTION.

He was, however, forced shortly after to retire. The severity with which he suppressed the secret associations of the republicans caused an explosion. Paris and Lyons revolted. Thiers went to the latter and there redeemed his reputation for courage. At Lyons, during the conflict, he was repeatedly aimed at by the insurgents, and two officers fell by his side, killed by bullets intended for him. After the insurrection was put down he opposed the intervention of the Cour des Paris, and the consequence was that dissensions occured in the Ministry. Not being able to get a hearing from the President of the Council, or Marshal Soult, or with Marshals Girard and Molé, he sent in his resignation on the 11th November, 1834.

IN OPPOSITION.

At the *fêtes* of July, 1835, M. Thiers was standing by the side of Marshal Mortier when he was slain by the explosion of the Fieschi machine, 28th of July. M. Thiers began now an underhand war with the aid of Talleyrand. Elected again, on 22d of February, 1836, he received the portfolio of Secretary for Foreign Affairs, but soon after, desiring to interfere with the affairs of Spain against the wishes of the King, he resigned (August 25, 1836). In the summer of 1837 he made a tour to Italy to study the arts. Towards the middle of the following year he returned and took part in the Parliamentary debates. Heading the coalition against the Ministry, he directed all his skill and energies to upset them, and finally succeeded. Meantime he had also been busy in overcoming the repugnance of the King, which he had hitherto been unable to avoid.

AT THE SUMMIT OF POWER.

On the overthrow of the Cabinet Thiers became President of the Council. This was after the government defeat on the Dotation bill of the Duke of Nemours. Louis Philippe now reposed every confidence in Thiers and trusted everything to him. Soon after his elevation Louis Napoleon made his second attempt on the French throne, and, in the proclamation that he brought with him to Boulogne, named Thiers as President of the Council. Whether he had any reason to believe that Thiers would espouse his cause may be doubted. In the Chamber the Minister had hard work, but he manœuvered so skilfully that it was difficult to decide whether he had a majority on one side of the Chamber or the other. He maintained the laws of September and caused the adjournment of the electoral and parliamentary reform. He was almost the sole partisan of Mehemet Ali in Europe, sustaining him in his projects against Turkey. The treaty of July 15, which practically excluded France from the European Congress, concluded at his instigation under the eyes of M. Guizot, his rival, excited the utmost indignation. The Syrian question, through his bad management, nearly involved France in a war with the other Powers and paved the way for the overthrow of the Orleans dynasty. So strong was the the feeling against M. Thiers that the King was compelled to request his retirement from the Cabinet. Thiers had not been idle during the excitement. He prepared France for war. He reproached the opposition for want of patriotism, and declared in all seriousness that a conflict was pending. Accordingly the ordinances relative to the calling out of the classes of 1836 to 1839, the mobilization of the National Guard and the construction of the permanent fortifications of Paris were voted for on the 20th of September, 1840. M. Thiers calculated on a military campaign the next spring, and a descent into Italy for the purpose of frightening Austria; but neither the King nor the Chambers partook of his bellicose ideas, and he was finally compelled to retire.

THE HISTORY OF THE CONSULATE AND EMPIRE.

Returning to private life M. Thiers devoted his leisure time to literature. A Bonapartist party had now made its appearance in France, and he began to coquette with it. In 1845, after numerous travels in Germany, England, Italy and Spain, he published his "Histoire du Consulat et de l'Empire." If the first historic monument of M. Thiers showed his youth already pungent and powerful this was a work of vigorous maturity. The grand figure of Napoleon towered above all without absorbing all.

AGAINST THE ORLEANS DYNASTY.

In January, 1844, he led the opposition against M. Guizot, and reproached him with his weakness and vacillation, and, being chief of the Left Centre, he rallied the dynastic opposition to war. He condemned everything, from the Jesuits down to the peasants. Without appearing at the reformist banquet of 1837, he nevertheless took part in the agitation, which he exercised through the *Constitutionnel*, and contributed more by his speeches in the memorable session of 1848, the last of the monarchy of July. Never was he more eloquent or more aggressive. He spoke upon the finances, upon outside politics; he protested in the name of humanity against the massacre of Gallicia, the bombardment of Palermo, &c.; he reproached the government with a guilty condescendance in regard to Austria and its indifference in regard to Italy; he criticized its conduct in regard to the affair of Souderbund, and defied them to ask from France a single man or a single sword to march on Berne; he stated plainly "that he was of the revolutionary party in Europe, and that he would never betray their cause" (January, 1848). He now regained his lost popularity.

AT THE HEAD OF THE MINISTRY AGAIN.

At midnight of the 23d of February, 1848, he was called and charged by the King to form a new Ministry, with M. Odilon Barrot. After giving the order to suspend the political feuds, he addressed a proclamation to the citizens of Paris, headed, "Liberty, order, union, reform." It was nine o'clock, 24th February. The city up to the time of the issuing of the proclamation was calm. In a few moments it was covered with barricades, and "Vive la Republique" was the password among the insurgents. Being made the butt of the crowd, who considered themselves injured by the proclamation, and seeing that he could no longer command the situation, M. Thiers sent in his resignation, and appeared at the Chamber to inform the members that he had nothing more to do.

ADHERES TO THE REPUBLIC.

After a republic was proclaimed, and believing the end of royalty had come, he sent his adhesion to the provisional government and presented himself to the constituency for election—"Not wishing," said he, "to remain a stranger to the new destinies of my country." He addressed himself to the general electors, but on the 4th of June following he was elected by four departments—the Seine, the Seine Inferieure, the Orne and Mayenne. He agreed to accept the nomination of the Seine Inferieure, which had elected him by 60,000 votes in place of M. de Lamartine.

HIS VOTE FOR NAPOLEON.

This election was looked upon as being dangerous for the republic. He nevertheless placed his high reasoning, his good, practical sense and his knowledge of business at the service of the government. On the 10th of December he voted for the Presidency of Prince Louis Napoleon, whose candidature he had at first combatted. All the opposition journals had declared that such an election would be a shame to France. M. Bixio repeated this before the Assembly. M. Thiers replied in provoking language defending Napoleon, and a duel was the result before the end of the sitting. Re-elected by the Seine Inferieure to the Legislative Assembly he took part in all the debates, voted for the expedition to Rome, for the law of public instruction of 15th March, 1850, and for the suppression of the clubs and the electoral law of 31st May.

HIS ARREST AND BANISHMENT.

It has often been wondered why Napoleon did not offer M. Thiers a position in his Cabinet. During the Presidency he gave the future Emperor a steady and consistent support. It seems, however, that Napoleon mistrusted him. The fact was, M. Thiers labored under the impression that the coalition between the Orleanists and Bonapartists in the Assembly would result in the triumph of the former and absorption of the latter. He kept up a steady correspondence with Louis Philippe, and no doubt felt certain that the hour of his recall was near. He believed that Napoleon lacked the nerve to attempt a *coup d'état* and doubted his influence with the army. Events proved his mistake. On the morning of December 2, 1851, he was arrested and taken to Mazas Prison, and was subsequently sent out of France. He went to England, where he renewed his allegiance to the Orleans dynasty, and, to do him justice, has faithfully kept it ever since.

IN THE CORPS LEGISLATIF.

Permitted to return to France, M. Thiers soon appeared in his old quarters at Paris. In 1863 he was elected a member of the Corps Législatif for the Department of Seine by the liberal opposition, and remained a member till the overthrow of the Bonapartes. He advocated the freedom of the press, the upholding of the Pope's temporal sovereignty, and opposed the war for Italian unity, the liberation of Poland and the Mexican war. In his opposition to Napoleon he frequently surpassed himself in vigor and eloquence. At the time of the Prusso-Austrian war of 1866 he advocated French intervention in behalf of Austria, but at the outbreak of the present war he strenuously opposed an appeal to arms, declaring, after the battle of Sedan, that he did so because he was aware that the country was not prepared for a conflict. As is very well known, he endeavored to interest England, Austria, Italy and Russia in behalf of France, but failed.

CONCLUSION.

Such, in brief, is the history of M. Thiers' career. What policy he will pursue as head of the provisional government belongs to the future. That he will use his influence to restore the Orleans dynasty is probable, but is not certain, if we are to judge by his past career. He was, however, elected as an avowed Orleanist, and this fact may be steadily borne in mind by him, and tend to the election of the Orleans princes to the French throne.

THE FRENCH ASSEMBLY.

Debate on the Alsace and Lorraine Question.

Declaration of Sympathy With the Population.

Rochefort Protests Against the Military Guard.

Opinion of Generals Chanzy and Billot of a Defensive War.

They Declare One Can be Successfully Prosecuted.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

BORDEAUX, Feb. 17, 1871.

For the information of the NEW YORK HERALD I report that in the National Assembly to-day M. Keller presented a declaration, bearing the signatures of the Deputies of the Haut and Bas Rhin, the Meurthe and the Moselle, protesting, on behalf of the inhabitants of those departments, against the separation of Alsace and Lorraine from France.

DECLARATION OF SYMPATHY.

The proposal of M. Keller was referred to a committee, who subsequently submitted a report expressing the strongest sympathy with the populations of Alsace and Lorraine, and directing that the declaration of M. Keller be spread upon the records of the Assembly and referred to the French negotiators when they come to treat with Prussia.

ELECTION OF M. THIERS.

The Assembly then conferred the executive power of the government upon M. Thiers.

THE ALSACE AND LORRAINE QUESTION AGAIN.

M. Keller, in a speech, adjured his colleagues to proclaim their inviolable attachment to Alsace and Lorraine.

M. THIERS' POSITION.

A majority of the Chamber appeared disposed to delay the consideration of the subject until to-morrow, but M. Thiers strongly insisted upon its immediate consideration, saying, "The Chamber must on its own responsibility clearly declare its wishes upon this question."

NO DECISION.

The Chamber went into committee on the motion of M. Keller, and the sitting was subsequently suspended.

A Protest from Rochefort—A War of Defence Practicable.

BORDEAUX, Feb. 17, 1871.

The following events of interest occurred in the Assembly to-day:—

A PROTEST FROM ROCHEFORT.

M. Rochefort protested against the display of military force around the Chamber during the discussion upon the declaration of M. Keller in committee yesterday.

A WAR OF DEFENCE PRACTICABLE.

Generals Chanzy and Billot each declared that a defensive war could if necessary be successfully prosecuted.

LARGE ATTENDANCE OF DEPUTIES.

The number of Deputies in attendance to-day exceeds 600.

PARIS.

Members of the Diplomatic Corps Returning.

The German Crown Prince Opposed to the Triumphal Entry.

The National Guards to be Provided With Work.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Feb. 18, 1871.

Through a despatch from Paris, dated on the 16th inst., I am enabled to inform the NEW YORK HERALD that many members of the diplomatic corps have returned to Paris.

OPPOSED TO THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY.

The German Crown Prince Frederick William is known to be opposed to the entry of the German army into this city.

A PROPOSED ABSURDITY.

The journals say that if the National Assembly consents to the dismemberment the Parisian delegation will protest and withdraw.

A FINANCIAL MEASURE.

Notes of the Bank of France for twenty francs, printed on parchment, have been issued, and those for twenty-five francs are to be withdrawn.

WORK FOR THE IDLE.

The Paris government intends to stop the pay of the National Guards and their wives and to provide them with work in its stead.

DESTROYING HEAVY GUNS.

A despatch from Versailles, 17th, says the destruction of the heavy guns of the forts is in progress. The drawing of the mines has been completed.

SHELLS MANUFACTURED IN PARIS.

A million shells and a quarter of a million mitrailleuse balls have been manufactured in Paris since the 19th of September.

RETURNING THANKS.

M. Rothschild goes to London to convey the thanks of the people of Paris for the contributions of food made by the former city.

NO GAS.

Coals are arriving plentifully, but there is yet no gas.

GENERAL REPORTS.

MOVEMENTS OF FRENCH TROOPS.

Smallpox Raging in Northern France.

TELEGRAM TO THE NEW YORK HERALD.

LONDON, Feb. 18, 1871.

My advices from Northern France, for the NEW YORK HERALD, contains the following items of interest:—

MOVEMENTS OF FRENCH TROOPS.

A letter from Dunkirk, dated the 16th, says the Twenty-second French Army corps has passed there and will embark by sea for Bordeaux.

SMALLPOX.

The smallpox is raging in the north of France, and is especially violent at Lille.

MORE GERMAN EXACTIONS.

A despatch from Lille to-day says the Prussians have made a demand for the taxes assessed in the city of Sedan for the last quarter of 1870. The municipality only acceded to threats and were obliged to contract a loan of 210,000f. to satisfy the demand.

At an election held on Friday evening Company K, Ninth regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., elected Lieutenant Robert C. Cable as captain, amid much enthusiasm.

A.—A.—

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